



**South Pacific Regional Environment Program**

**East Asia and Pacific Environmental Initiative (EAPEI)**

**Closeout Report Sept 2002**

**Special Activity 1 to 4**

- 1. Construction SPREP HQ**
- 2. Coral Reef Harvest and Trade Management Activities**
- 3. Assistance in Community-based Marine Protected Areas.**
- 4. Capacity Building of Natural Resource Management**

**Period of Grant:**

October 1999 to 30 September 2002

**Grant Number:**

# 1 ENV-G-00-99-00005-00

**Grant Total:**

US\$ 526,750

**Grant Recipient:**

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**Accompanying documents to be viewed in conjunction with this report:**

**Sustainable Management of the marine Aquarium Trade – Pacific Regional Workshop Proceedings**

**Guide to Indo-Pacific Coral in International Trade and Insert Introduction.**

**Mid-Consultancy Report “Management Systems for Corals-in-Trade - CITES - Permitting Coral Specimen Identification National Training Workshops Fiji and Tonga.**

## Introduction

This is the final report on activities conducted by South Pacific Regional Environment Program and member countries with funding received from the US Governments East Asia and Pacific Environmental Initiative.

The South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) was first established in 1982 as a programme within the now Secretariat of the Pacific Community. It was accorded formal legal status to be an autonomous regional organisation in 1993 under the Agreement Establishing SPREP which came into force in 1995. The SPREP Secretariat is located in Apia, Samoa. SPREP also comes under the umbrella of the United Nations Regional Seas Programme.

The mission for SPREP members and the Secretariat, contained in Article 2 of the *Agreement Establishing SPREP (1995)*, is:

*to promote co-operation in the South Pacific region and to provide assistance in order to protect and improve its environment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations.*

SPREP's programs are guided by the *Action Plan for Managing the Environment of the South Pacific* (SPREP, 2001-2005). The SPREP member countries and territories which have given SPREP the mandate to develop and implement the Action Plan are:

American Samoa	Niue
Australia	Northern Mariana Islands
Cook Islands	Palau
Federated States of Micronesia	Papua New Guinea
Fiji	Pitcairn Island
French Polynesia	Solomon Islands
French Republic	Tokelau
Guam	Tonga
Kiribati	Tuvalu
Marshall Islands	United States of America
Nauru	Vanuatu
New Caledonia	Wallis and Futuna
New Zealand	Western Samoa

Pacific island countries host a significant proportion of the worlds coral reefs. These ecosystems although currently relatively healthy, (see Reefs at Risk, 1998) are under threat from a wide range of human activities. The conservation of these reefs is hindered by a lack of effective management structures, appropriate management skills, knowledge, technology and finances.

A range of strategic documents including the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Islands Region (Strategy), National Environmental Management Strategies

(NEMS), the Pacific Regional International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and the Activity Plan for the Conservation of Coral Reefs in the Pacific (Activity Plan) and more recently National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans provide a conceptual and operational framework from which to address nearshore ecosystem and coral reef management issues. These strategies focus on building national capacity through a combination of technical assistance, co-ordination, monitoring and evaluation, research, training and exchange of information relating to management of the marine sphere.

Many of the Pacific Islands are extremely dependent on coral reefs and the functions and goods that these valuable ecosystems provide. Management issues include resource exploitation such as extraction of living resources, reclamation, mining of coral reefs for building material and the resulting coastal erosion, impact of land sourced pollutants. Industrial development is usually rare, but intensive tourism may pose a threat when not properly managed. As most islands can be considered as entirely coastal, improved ICM practices as the framework to manage their resources are especially pertinent to these states.

Three of the four focus areas supported under this grant were aimed at enabling SPREP to assist member countries improve their coral reef and coast management and foster community engagement in these activities.

Funding was provided to South Pacific Regional Environment Program for a range of Special Activities as follows:

Special Activity 1: Construction SPREP Head Quarters

Special Activity 2: Coral Reef Harvest and Trade Management

Special Activity 1: Assistance in Community-based Marine Protected Areas – Small Grant Fund

Special Activity 1: Capacity Building for Natural Resource Management

The original work plans for the various projects are attached at Annex 1. Projects were completed successfully for the most part. However, some delays and problems were experienced due to staff changes at both SPREP and the various National Governments involved in implementing some of the activities.

The successes and problems encountered are detailed in the following reports by activity.

## **1. Construction SPREP Head Quarters**

The 10<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting (10SM) “gave its approval for the Secretariat to proceed with the construction of the SPREP Headquarters Centre under the guidance of the Headquarters Taskforce as soon as sufficient donor funding was obtained. The Meeting mandated the Headquarters Task Force to continue its work in relation to the project” (paragraph 33 of Report of 10SM).

At the time of 10SM, approximately USD\$1.3 million (at then exchange rates) had been pledged towards the project from Australia (AU\$1.25 million), New Zealand (NZ\$1.0 million) and Papua New Guinea (100,000 kina). This left a funding shortfall of approximately US\$520,000, based on a quantity surveyor's estimates at the time.

The SPREP Headquarters Task Force (chaired by the Australian High Commissioner), together with the Secretariat, vigorously pursued possible funding options. Subsequent pledges were received from the People's Republic of China (US\$100,000), France (US\$100,000) and United States of America (US\$200,000) under this Grant.

Only five tenders were received and opened at a Task Force Meeting in late May 1999. A review of the tenders indicated there was a potential shortfall of between \$700,000 and \$900,000 Samoan tala in funding, if all donor funding was received. As all tenders were considerably higher than the quantity surveyor's estimates, the Secretariat pursued the possibility of making further refinements to the project. As the highest tender price was nearly SAT\$600,000 more than the next highest tender price, the consultants only pursued the reduced cost of such refinements with the four lowest tenders. Revised tenders were then requested from these four businesses.

Both the Australian and New Zealand High Commissioners (as members of the Task Force) pursued the possibility of their respective governments funding the shortfall. Both Governments subsequently agreed to commit further funds to meet the shortfall. Australia agreed to make further funding, up to a maximum of AU\$250,000, available and New Zealand agreed to make a further NZ\$250,000 funding available.

Revised tenders were submitted in June 1999. Tenders were analysed by the architects, who held subsequent meetings with the Secretariat and each of the four contractors. After a detailed analysis of all tenders, the Consultants submitted their recommendation to the Task Force. The Secretariat advised the Task Force that the total cost of the entire project, based on the Consultant's recommendation, would be approximately SAT\$6.06 million, which at the time was almost US\$2.06 million.

The Task Force was advised that the additional pledges from Australia and New Zealand would suffice to fund the project. The Task Force accepted the Consultant's recommendation and on 18 June 1999 authorised the Director to issue a formal Letter of Intent to C.A.R.E. Construction Company Ltd., for the basic building construction contract at a cost of SAT\$4,742,788. Their timeframe for construction, including extensions of time, was 52 weeks. The formal construction contract commenced on 12 July 1999.

The construction by C.A.R.E. extended slightly over the 52-week period. The Prime Minister of Samoa, the Hon. Tuilaepa Sailele Malielagoai, officially opened the Centre, on 2 August 2000. A "Practical Completion Certificate" was issued on 9 August 2000. The Secretariat commenced operations in the new Centre on Monday 7 August 2000.

The Secretariat closely monitored the construction project, to ensure costs did not exceed available funding. The final total cost was under the budget, at approximately US\$1.935

million. Cost savings came mainly from increased exchange movements between USD and tala. However, the funding was also reduced, due to unfavorable exchange rate movements between the currencies of the main donors to the project (Australia and New Zealand) against both the US dollar and the tala.

The People's Republic of China also made a specific grant of US\$120,000. This grant was in addition to those funds provided by the Chinese Government towards the building construction. These funds enabled SPREP to acquire new furnishings and equipment, for the Centre, which had to be excluded from the original budget.

The Secretariat has also progressed negotiations with two other donors for further facilities to enhance the SPREP Centre. In late 1999, the Government of Japan selected a Japanese building design firm to conduct a feasibility study and to commence the design of an Education and Training Centre. Following such studies, the Japanese Government made a formal commitment to the Centre, through its bilateral agreement with Samoa, for this building. A formal Agreement between the two Governments was executed during August 2000. Construction of this building was completed in mid 2002.

The European Union (EU) has also approved a Secretariat proposal for an Information Resource Centre project. In May 2000, the EU and the Secretariat executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for this project. Construction was completed in 2002.

## **2. Coral Reef Harvest and Trade Management Activities**

The purpose of this activity was to help address the growing environmental, social, and economic problems associated with coral harvest and trade in the Pacific. A range of intergovernmental agencies, NGOs, and member governments are attempting to address the issue, but several SPREP member nations had requested assistance in developing government controlled permitting processes.

The activities initially planned were to:

- Conduct a regional training workshop on how to set up a permitting system to manage and monitor the coral trade and invest in measures which would increase the capacity of personnel involved to submit accurate reports to the CITES Trade Database
- Developing an identification guide of coral taxa. The coral reef taxa guide given to coral harvesting companies in Fiji to trial and assess its utility and effectiveness.

The SPREP Officer responsible for delivery of this activity left SPREP in early 2000 and was not replaced until July 2000 resulting in a delay in project implementation. Revisions were subsequently made to the original workplan in consultation with Mr. Richard Volk of USAID in relation to timelines and also to the focus of activities. The focus of this workshop was amended from initial workplan by agreement following negotiations during the period Oct 00 to Jan 01. This is because it was felt that it would

be very difficult to focus on developing permit systems for a variety of countries with different legislative systems at a single regional workshops. Also, there was little information available as to the status of coral harvesting and trade operations in the Pacific Island Countries. It was decided to focus the regional meeting on obtaining a perspective on the status quo of coral harvesting and trade and explore the management systems that needed to be put in place generally to endure the sustainability of the activities rather than just compliance and reporting with CITES per se.

#### Revised Workplan and Progress:

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<b>1. Successful Project Implementation</b>	1a Project accepted by USAid. 1b. SPREP member government and NGOs aware of the project. 1c Proposal finalised and workplan produced. 1d Funds receipted	Grant signed 30 September Workplan development 30 October, 1999 Tracking of funds 30 October, 1999	<b>Completed</b> Revised Workplan September 2000 EAPEI Funding: \$5,750
<b>2. Regional Overview of Trade</b>	2a Aquarium Trade Assessment Workshop held in Fiji  2b. Participation profile.  2c. Proceedings – regional and national reports.	Develop TOR and agenda <b>30 Sept 2000</b>  Source resource people <b>30 Sept 2000</b>  Circular Invitation sent 10 Oct 2000  Conduct workshop 30 Nov September, 2000  Edit and disseminate workshop report 30 March 2001.	EAPEI Funding \$45,000 <b>Completed Oct 2000</b>  <b>Completed Oct 2000</b>  <b>Completed Dec 2000</b>  <b>Completed Feb 2001</b> <b>Editing completed June 2001</b> <b>Publication in process</b>
<b>3a. Trainees from Pacific island countries with skills to a) Assess and manage the</b>	National Training Workshops	Source additional funding  Source expertise & or materials 30 Dec, 2000	EAPEI USD 6,750 seed funding  <b>Additional funding secured from Canada CSPOD – II</b>

<i>aquarium trade</i>		<b>Program. July 01</b>
<i>b) Submit accurate CITES data</i>	Commission or order guides	<b>In progress – completion March 01</b>
<i>b) Understand CITES regulations</i>	30 Mar 2001	<b>In progress – Programmed for Jan-June 02 under existing and newly secured.</b>
<i>3b Simple identification guide on coral taxa</i>	Run training workshops by June 2001	

The Regional Workshop “**Sustainable Management of the Marine Ornamentals Trade**” took place in Nadi, Fiji in February 2001.

The workshop brought together representatives from government departments and industry from PICs where the industry is active, regional NGO's, other Regional Organisations to look at the current status of the trade in PICs and identify country capacity and requirements in terms of being able to ensure the ecological sustainability of the trade. A copy of the published proceedings is enclosed with this report.

Delegates included representatives of environment and fisheries departments of the governments of American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Palau, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Tonga and industry representatives from Fiji, Tonga, Palau and Solomon Islands. Regional agencies represented included SPREP, SPC, International Marine Life Alliance, Marine Aquarium Council, USP, FSP, WWF and CSPOD.

The workshop focused on four main areas:

- capacity to manage resources sustainably (existing and requirements);
- protecting marine ornamentals from exploitation through international trade and other stresses;
- fulfilling CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) requirements;
- the role of government, local communities and the trade industry in managing the resource including the potential for Certification.

Each country representative provided an overview of the situation in his or her respective countries. These papers provided an overview of the level of activity in this sector in the region and of the issues of concern to managers.

Other presentations included:

- overview of the coral reefs in the region (status, economic and cultural value);
- overview of the marine ornamentals trade globally and in the Pacific;



- best management practices (ecosystem management and industry management;
- overview of CITES and CITES permitting and tracking process and obligations;
- Industry Certification and produce labeling as an industry self-regulation approach.

A field visit was undertaken to view industry management practices at extraction sites and holding and packing facility. Panel Discussions, open forums and working group focused on identifying the management needs of each of the member countries present.

Several key messages came out of the workshop:

1. This activity provides a solid income at the village level in many countries, as all collectors are village based generally.
2. There is a need to develop country-specific resource management plans to ensure there is a sustainable level of harvesting, monitored through surveillance and enforcement of "best practice" standards.
3. While it's important for government and industry to work together its imperative that government manages the industry through regulation and enforcement of policies, and that it would be irresponsible for government to simply delegate those duties to the industry self-regulation
4. Certification and labeling of marine ornamentals is a management option worth pursuing for the region in tandem with government initiatives
5. These mechanisms are unlikely to be fully effective without adequate and effective enforcement to ensure compliance
6. If signatory countries don't comply with CITES requirements importing countries will be forced to ban imports thereby closing off a significant source of income at the village level.

### **Outcomes**

- A "virtual" task force online was formed, to ensure that ecosystem management remains a prevalent part of the marine ornamentals trade and particularly for input into ecosystem sustainability component of industry certification.
- Endorsement for SPREP to source additional funding for National Training Workshops on CITES in particular and industry management issues generally based on needs identified by the working groups.
- General support for the concept of certification with the following reservations:
  - ⇒ All interested/relevant stakeholders are involved and consulted at all stages of the process;
  - ⇒ standards developed internationally must be reviewed and accepted by all interested/relevant stakeholders;
  - ⇒ the management regime addresses traditional custodians interests and needs (e.g. fishing rights);
  - ⇒ addresses the 'value of resource' and equity issues from a custodian point of view; and
  - ⇒ certification is trialled/tested and recognised as an evolving process.
  - ⇒ Ecosystem sustainability issues are addressed from the outset.

### **Leveraging of Additional Funds and follow-on activities**

The success of the workshop in bringing all the stakeholders together and highlighting the regional issues has galvanized additional funding. The Canadian Government, under its CSPODP II program, provided additional funds to SPREP to run National Workshops in countries participating in the coral trade to raise awareness regarding CITES and the associated permitting requirements and explore management issues.

The workshops took place during the reporting period Fiji in April, Tonga in September and Solomon Islands and Vanuatu in November 2002. This funding contributed to the workshop by financing the printing of the draft “Guide to Indo-Pacific Corals in International Wildlife Trade (Bruckner 2001) with the permission of the author (copy enclosed). The manual was used successfully as one of the main resources in the workshops. The workshops also served to “road test” the manual and have resulted in amendments and improvements to the manual to increase its functionality. This includes a new introduction to the manual which the author informs will be included in subsequent printings. Please see attached consultant’s report of the Fiji and Tonga workshops including this introduction, which is in the Appendices of the Fiji section.

The workshops resulted in strong government support for the development of National Management Plans for the Aquarium Trade generally in each country. SPREP will be approaching donors to support these processes over the period 2002-2004 in the coming months. This process will be co-funded under the ICRAN Pacific Action Phase (UNF-UNEP ICRAN). Preliminary work has commenced in Fiji and Tonga.

This project has been extremely successful in focusing attention on the need for efficient management systems to ensure the sustainability of activities associated with the Coral trade in particular and the Aquarium Industry generally.

### **3. Assistance in Community-based Marine Protected Areas.**

These funds were utilized to support a Small Grants Program for support for community based MPA type initiatives. In all 8 projects were supported with an average of \$5-\$10K Annex II provides a summary of the various proposals and the progress made with the assistance of the funding provided.

One major observation on the Small grant process is that the call for submissions did not elicit a large response. In all 8 proposals were received in response to the first call. Of these 3 were rejected as being inappropriate and 5 supported with an average financing of \$10,000. The remaining 3 projects that were funded in 2002 were identified by the project officer during interactions with countries on other matters. It is possible that people in country, on reading the calls for submissions, did not feel the amount available warranted the effort of proposal writing. It is obvious however, that Small Grant funds are useful but probably most so in the form of a contingency fund that allows a rapid response to either a direct request from countries for assistance with a relevant activity or

where the project manager opportunistically identifies potential projects during the course of interactions with countries and projects. SPREP will attempt to maintain this responsive capacity under new funding. Certainly, a small amount of funding that is forthcoming in the short term and can be applied to a problem can often be more advantageous than a larger amount that requires a longer term application process and often does not provide funds in time to deal with the issues at hand.

A point to note however is that Small Grant Funds are administratively burdening in that the project selection, review, monitoring, recording and reporting required for each small project is not much different than that required for major projects.

#### **4. Capacity Building of Natural Resource Management**

Full implementation of this project was not completed for a variety of reasons. Activities in all countries have been slower than anticipated. . It was suggested in January 2002 that the project would need to extend beyond the initial completion date of September 2002 for all activities to be completed. However, the countries, for various reasons have had difficulty continuing the activities as proposed and continuation beyond September 2002 is no longer recommended.

Meetings with participating countries and workplan development and the initial transfer of funds took place in 2000. The Project Officer responsible for overseeing the project left SPREP in late 2000 and was not replaced due to lack of funding for the position. Most projects did not actively commence activities until 2001. Due to several changes of staff in the relevant section the project was not allocated to another SPREP staff member until late 2001. There were also staff changes and departmental restructures in the countries involved in the project which resulted in countries losing momentum in implementing the activities as planned. These factors were detailed in the Jan – Dec 2001 and the Jan-Sept 2002 narrative reports. Consequently only approximately 50% of the funding for this project was drawn down overall.

Samoa and Niue progressed well initially. The establishment phases of the Environmental Quality Protection Board and the changeover of Peace Corp representative in Palau caused delays in initiating the project there. The person responsible for the project in Tonga was on 6 months study leave for the latter part of 2002 and was promoted to a senior position on his return. There was also a departmental re-organisation to create a new Ministry of Environment.

The progress made with the various activities is detailed in Annex III.

## **Annex 1**

### **SPREP Workplan**

#### **East Asia and Pacific Environmental Initiative (EAPEI)**

##### **Special Activity 1 to 4**

**Period of Grant:**

October 1999 to September 2002

**Grant Number:**

NMS Generated #

**Grant Recipient:**

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) PO Box 240 Apia, Samoa.

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**Reporting Schedule:**

A narrative and financial progress report will be provided each January and July to USAID. A terminal report will be completed at the completion of each Special Activity. Reporting schedule will commence January 2001.

## Special Activity 1: Construction of the Permanent SPREP Headquarters

### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format for 1 September to 31 August 2001

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
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USAID 200,000

<b><i>1. Construction of Permanent SPREP Headquarters</i></b>	1.1 Proposal accepted	SPREP	Proposal submitted.	Budget: 200,000
	1.2 Approval received and construction contract awarded	SPREP	Notified of approval March 1999	
	1.3 Successful tender accepted and site works commenced.	SPREP/CARE Constructions	Construction commenced in July 1999	
	1.4 Formal hand over by construction company	SPREP/CARE Constructions	Construction completed August 2000	
			<b>Output 1 completed August 2000</b>	



## Special Activity 2: Coral Reef Harvest & Trade Management Activities

### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
<b>1. Successful Project Implementation</b>	1a Project accepted by USAID.	1a Grant notice, SPREP Circular, Payment Authorities	Grant signed 30 September	USAID Forum Secretariat
	1b. SPREP member government and NGOs aware of the project.	PO	Workplan development 30 October, 1999	Marine Aquarium Council Local NGOs.
	1c Proposal finalised and workplan produced		Preparation of information notice 30 November, 1999	Pacific Community member SPREP governments
	1d Funds receipted		Tracking of funds 30 October, 1999	USD5,750
	2a Coral Trade Permit Assessment Workshop held in Fiji	Workshop evaluations	Develop TOR and agenda 30 February, 2000	Fiji Environment Dept. Forum Secretariat
<b>2. Trainees from Pacific island countries with skills to manage coral harvest permit assessment</b>	a) implement and permit assessment	Facilitator	Source resource people (30 March, 3000)	Marine Aquarium Council Local NGOs.
	b) submit accurate CITES data		Identify participants June to August, 2000	Pacific Community member SPREP governments
	c) understand CITES regulations		Conduct workshop 30 September, 2000	USD45,000
			Evaluate workshop 30 September, 2000	
			Edit and disseminate workshop report	

## Special Activity 2: Coral Reef Harvest & Trade Management Activities

### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
<b>3. <i>Simple identification guide on coral taxa</i></b>	3. 80% of corals can be identified by non-specialists.	Field trials In-country reports	Source expertise & materials 30 January, 1999 (C)  Commission or order guides 30 April, 1999	AIMS ICRS East West Centre WCMC  USD6,750



### Special Activity 3: Assistance to Community Based Marine Protected Areas

#### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
<b>1. Successful Project Implementation</b>				
	1a Project accepted by USAID.	1a Grant notice, SPREP Circular, Payment Authorities	Grant signed 30 September 1999	USAID Local and regional NGOs
	1b. SPREP member government and NGOs aware of the telegrant scheme.	PO	Workplan development 30 October, 1999	SPREP governments member
	1c Proposal finalised and workplan produced		Preparation of information notice 30 November, 1999	USD7,693
	1d Funds receipted		Tracking of funds 30 October, 1999	
<b>2. Community based MPAs maintained and supported</b>				
	2a Number of community project proposals received and approved which meet the selection criteria.	Project evaluations including site visits Grantee, PO	Telegrant Approval Committee established, 30 February 2000	Local and regional NGOs SPREP governments member
	2b. Reports of results of telegrant projects which help abate immediate threats to protected marine areas		Criteria for assessment and selection of project proposals developed. March, to April 2000	USD 73,557
	2c Number of successful projects.		Guidelines for Country project proposals, March to April 2000 (	

### Special Activity 3: Assistance to Community Based Marine Protected Areas

#### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
			Circular informing countries about this project and inviting project submissions, April 2000.	
			Telegrant scheme proposals evaluated against criteria Quarterly through to September 2001	
			Disbursement of funds to successful recipients 2 weeks after approval,	
			Receipt of project reports 1 month after project completion	

### Special Activity 3: Assistance to Community Based Marine Protected Areas

#### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
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**Participating Countries**  
Niue, Palau, Samoa, Tonga

**EAP EI 188,000**  
CBEMP/UNDP  
541,000  
Peace Corps 700,000  
DFID 6,000

In-country  
Implementation  
Agencies  
**Niue:** Environment  
Unit  
**Palau:** Environment  
Quality Protection  
Board  
**Samoa:** Department of  
Environment and  
Conservation  
**Tonga:** Environmental  
Planning and  
Conservation Service

<b>1. Project Development and Planning</b>	1.1 Project accepted by EAP EI	SPREP	Proposal submitted to EAP EI, February 2000	Budget: SPREP In-kind
	1.2 SPREP and EAP EI participating countries notified		Notified of approval by EAP EI, July 2000	

### Special Activity 3: Assistance to Community Based Marine Protected Areas

#### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
	1.3 Workplan produced and approved by EAPEI	SPREP/Participating countries	Workplan development, July/August 2000	
	1.4 Funds received to SPREP and received.	SPREP/EAPEI	Letter Grant signed, September 2000 <b>Output 1 completed by September 2000</b>	
<hr/>				
<b>2. Literature review of existing traditional resource management information</b>	<b>2.1 Sources are contacted and assessed for information</b>	Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's)	Contact potential in-country sources of information including government departments and national libraries.	Budget: 16,000
	2.2 Review is carried out and bibliography compiled	Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's)	Undertake review and compile bibliography	
	2.3 Report is prepared and presented to the CBEMP National Coordinating Committee (NCC)	Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's)	Prepare report on the completed bibliography for review by the CBEMP NCC	
			<b>Output 2 completed by November 2000</b>	
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### Special Activity 3: Assistance to Community Based Marine Protected Areas

#### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
3. <i>Training workshop for the collection of information on traditional resource management practices</i>	3.1 Resource persons are identified	Participating countries	Identify resource persons to coordinate and implement the activity	Budget: 36,000
	3.2 Workshop agenda is developed	Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's)	Develop agenda workshop	
	3.3 Workshop is successfully carried out.	Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's)	Conduct workshop	
	3.4 Workshop is evaluated in collaboration with SPREP Training Officer	SPREP	Review and evaluate workshop	
	3.5 Workshop report is completed printed and distributed	Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's)	Compile and distribute workshop report	
<b>Output 3 completed by December 2000</b>				

### Special Activity 3: Assistance to Community Based Marine Protected Areas

#### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
<b>4.Implement information-gathering surveys on traditional resource management practices.</b>	4.1 Resource persons are identified	Participating countries	Identify in-country person to coordinate and implement the activity	Budget: 20,000
	4.2 Survey form is completed in English and local languages.	Participating countries/ CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's)	Using outputs from Output 3 design an appropriate survey form	
	4.3 Suitable study groups and individuals are identified and the survey is carried out.	Participating countries	Identify appropriate individuals and communities and undertake information gathering survey	
	4.4 Survey is analyzed and report is submitted to NCC.	Participating countries/ CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's)	Analyze results of the survey and prepare report for submission to CBEMP NCC.	

**Output 4 completed by February 2001**

### Special Activity 3: Assistance to Community Based Marine Protected Areas

#### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
5. <i>Training workshop for school and community educators in the preparation of education and awareness raising resource materials.</i>	5.1 Resource persons are identified	Participating countries	Identify in-country resource persons. Utilize resource persons trained in previous SPREP education activities	Budget: 36,000
	5.2 Workshop agenda is produced	Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's)	Develop agenda	workshop
	5.3 Workshop is successfully carried out.	Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's)	Conduct workshop	
	5.4 Evaluation completed and recommendations implemented.	SPREP	Review and evaluate workshop in collaboration with SPREP Training Officer.	
			<b>Output 5 completed by March 2001</b>	

### Special Activity 3: Assistance to Community Based Marine Protected Areas

#### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
6. <i>Printing and publication of education and awareness raising materials</i>	6.1 Resource materials are published and distributed.	SPREP/ Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps Volunteers (PCV's)	Print, publish and distribute education and awareness resource materials to schools, government department and non-government organizations	Budget: 16,000

#### Output 6 completed by May 2001

7. <i>Awareness raising seminars for decision makers and the government and community level.</i>	7.1 Resource persons are identified	Participating countries	Identify in-country resource persons to facilitate seminars.	Budget: 32,000
	7.2 A series of seminar opportunities are identified and permission is provided to undertake the seminars.	Participating countries	Identify opportunities to implement seminars. This would include briefing sessions for parliamentarians, annual church leader assemblies, and NGO leader conferences.	
	7.3 Seminars successfully implemented.	Participating countries	Implement seminars.	



### Special Activity 3: Assistance to Community Based Marine Protected Areas

#### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
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7.4 Report is compiled and submitted to the NCC. Participating countries Compile seminar report for submission to the CBEMP NCC.

**Output 7 completed by May 2001**

*8. Community based training seminars to promote income-generating opportunities based on the traditional use of natural resources.*

8.1 Resource persons are identified Participating countries Identify in-country resource persons to coordinate and implement the Output Budget: 32,000

8.2 Training seminar agenda is produced Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's) Develop seminar agenda training

8.3 Training seminar is successfully implemented. Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps (PCV's) Conduct seminar to identify potential small businesses training

8.4 Review is carried out and recommendations implemented. SPREP Review and evaluate workshop in cooperation with SPREP Training Officer.

### Special Activity 3: Assistance to Community Based Marine Protected Areas

#### Workplan and Performance Monitoring and Reporting Format

Outputs	Performance Indicators	Data to be Collected, Reporting Responsibility	Activities: Date and Location	Collaborators/ Resources
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8.5 Workshop report is completed and distributed. Participating countries/CBEMP Peace Corps Volunteers (PCV's) Compile and distribute workshop report.

**Output 8 completed by July 2001**

#### **9. Project Completion Reports**

9.1 Final completed distributed.	report is completed and distributed.	SPREP/Participating countries	Compile completion report in kind consultation with participating countries.	Budget: SPREP In-
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**Output 9 completed by August 2001**

## **ANNEX II – SMALL GRANT PROJECTS**

### **1. DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY-BASED SYSTEM OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN ONO-I-LAU, FIJI**

1. ORIGINATOR/COUNTRY : DR. VEIKILA VUKI, USP, Fisheries Department
2. PROJECT PERIOD : Phase I, JANUARY 2002- Dec 2002

#### **PHASE I : INVENTORY, ISSUES & OPTIONS (0-12 MONTHS) (This funding)**

- 1) To undertake inventory of marine biodiversity (habitats, communities, dominant species, endangered & threatened species, and significant wildlife)
- 2) To identify the patterns of human use in these areas
- 3) To identify the issues affecting marine biodiversity
- 4) To provide the above information to the communities
- 5) To initiate a broad-based marine education programme
- 6) To provide the communities with options for marine environmental management including a system of marine protected area

#### **PHASE I Outputs**

- 1) Inventory of marine biodiversity
- 2) Patterns of human use
- 3) Issues affecting Marine Biodiversity
- 4) Educational Information Programme
- 5) General Marine Educational Programme
- 6) Management Issues and Options

#### **OUTCOMES**

- 1) Map-based inventory ( based on aerial photography, ground-truthing of major habitats, community types, including coastal areas, significant .
- 2) Map-based layer in the inventory, showing major fishing grounds, marine resources, seaweed farms, etc; seafood consumption, socio-economics, etc.; evaluation of existing conservational practices)
- 3) Report in the inventory on the status of giant clams, seabirds, reef fish, corals & coral communities
- 4) Meetings and video presentations with key stakeholders to inform them of the project findings: chiefly system and clan meetings, talks to schools, women's groups, church groups, etc.
- 5) Production of resource materials to schools etc. on background information on coral reefs and fisheries management (e.g. posters, videos)
- 6) Workshops to assist the communities to consider the issues and management options and inform the communities of areas of significant biodiversity value)

**PHASE II : Development of a community-based plan of management ( 13-24 months)**  
(additional funding)

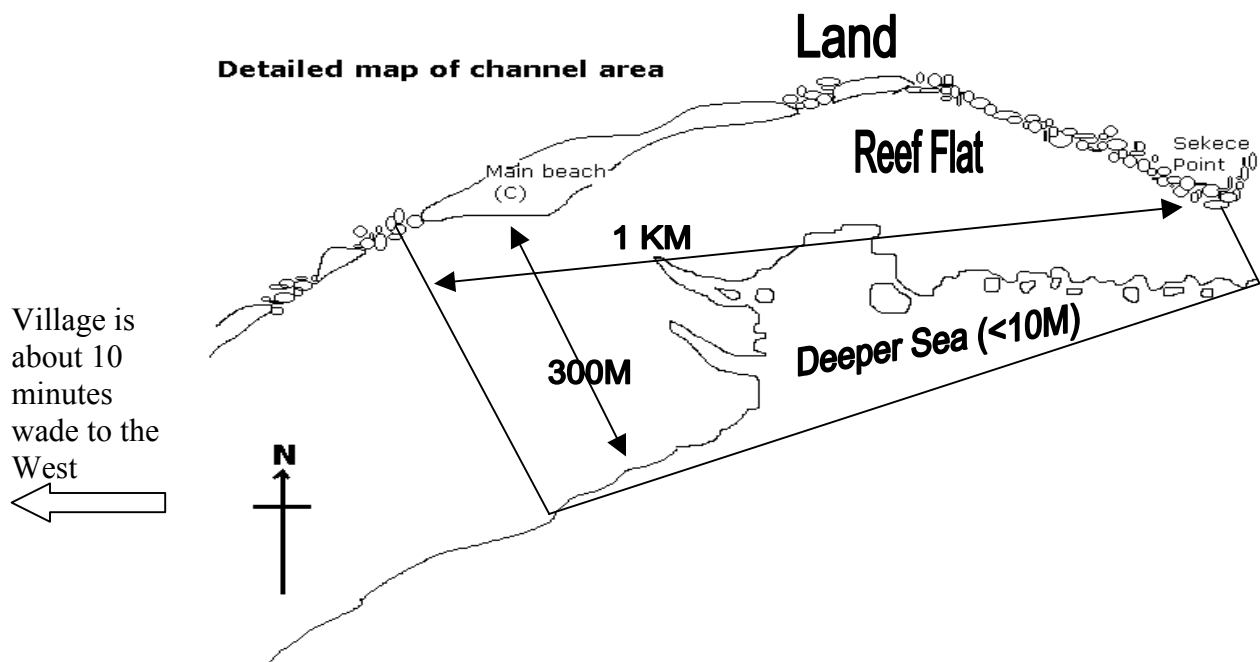
**PHASE III :** Implementation of the plan of management (25- 48 months) – (additional funding).

**Progress:** Initial surveys and village consultations underway Dec 01 – Feb 02. An area of potential interest as a marine reserve was identified, mapped, and records of the marine life community were made. The effects of over-fishing and reef-walking were very apparent at this time.

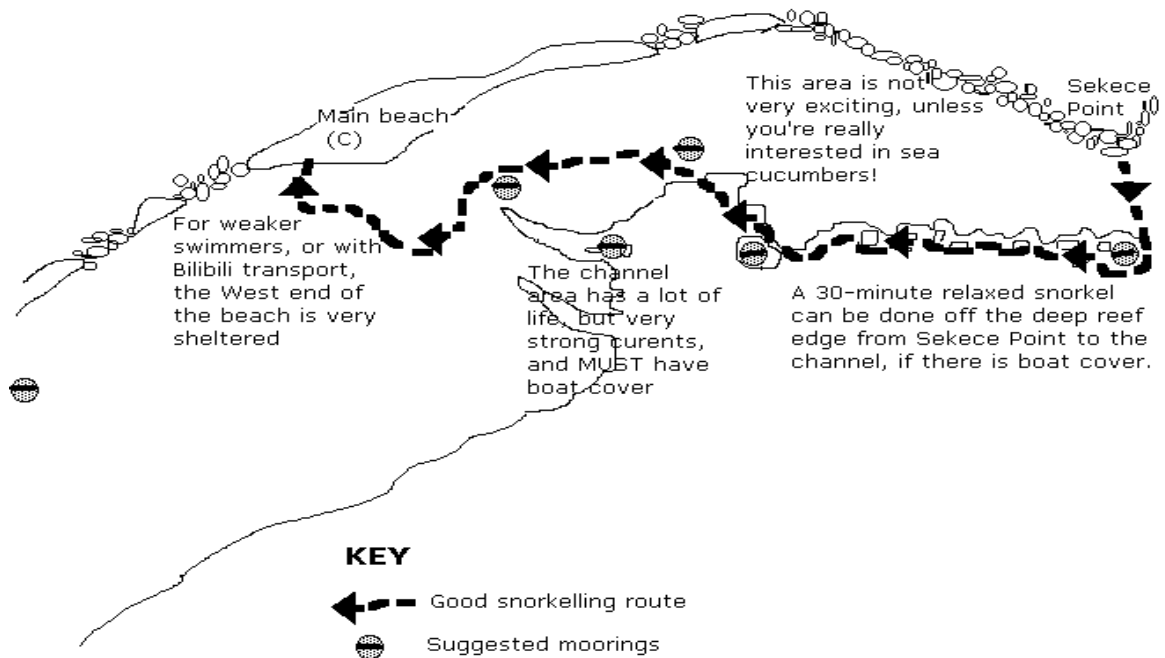
The villagers agreed to respect this area as a no-take zone, to allow marine life to re-stock and re-grow. Community education was undertaken, using videos, a Fijian Instructor, and a specially designed booklet, to explain reef conservation for tourism, and for managing stocks in the fishing areas.

Nine months aafter the initial decision to make the area a “no-take” zone, the villagers reported that, with the exception of one particular family, the reserve had been respected, and that no one had been fishing or reef walking in the area. The ladies reported that fishing in the adjacent areas had improved, yielding larger fish and more octopus than before.

Marine protected area:



## BEST SNORKELLING ROUTE AND AREAS



## **2 Ngaremeduu Conservation Area (NCA), Palau**

1. ORIGINATOR/COUNTRY: ALMA RIDEP-MORRIS. Bureau of Natural Resources and Development, ministry of resources and dev.
2. PROJECT PERIOD: OCTOBER 2001- OCTOBER 2002

### **3. Objectives and outputs**

#### Ecological:

- To maintain the ecological integrity and biodiversity.
- To maintain the present level of water quality: water quality monitoring.
- To establish baseline data: community training in reef and water monitoring programs.

#### Educational:

- To establish an effective on-going process of community awareness raising: newsletter production, NCA educational sign production, informational mangrove booklets, and educational school programs.

#### Economic:

- To provide planning for sustainable economic growth: establishment of a kayak center, purchasing of equipment to implement ecotours.

### **Outcomes**

- 1) **Maintenance of reef health and conservation of marine ecosystems.**
- 2) Maintenance of water quality.
- 3) Increased awareness among community members and visitors about the importance of conservation and environmental issues concerning the NCA.
- 4) Development of a sustainable tourism project that is environmentally and economically viable and run by community members.
- 5) Monitoring of NCA health by community members.

### **Progress:**

A Conservation Area Coordinating Committee (CACC) comprising of representatives from the 3 states of Aimeliik, Ngatpang and Ngaremlengui was established under the SPBCP program. At the termination of SPBCP support the CASO initially expressed concern over the lack of proactiveness on the part of the CACC in promoting the CAP and in raising community awareness and support for the resource management plan. This funding has promoted discussions with the CACC Chairman to gain the interest and support of the traditional leaders. The CACC now had high support for its ecotourism activities supported under this project.

The importance placed on awareness raising as the main solution to diffusing threats to the Project from a number of developments such as the Compact Road highlights the

need for the CACC to be actively involved and in the forefront of efforts to galvanize community support.

In terms of technical management, good progress has been made in the following areas – resource management planning, biodiversity monitoring, and CA enforcement. In terms of planning, the NCA Resource Management Plan has been completed.

Scientific monitoring of mangrove crabs is an on-going activity but likewise is the informal monitoring of the mangrove forest boundaries. The Project recognizes the need for assessing the rest of its biodiversity and was recently reported to have had discussions with the Bureau of Lands and Surveys for assistance in biodiversity assessments.

Enforcement using patrol officers funded largely by the CA states is an important part of the monitoring activities of the Project. Continuity is an issue with this activity, as Patrol officers turn over appears high.

Palau is an established tourist destination renown for its rich diving and fishing sites, the aesthetics of the Rock Islands and its extensive stretches of wetlands and mangrove forests. The NCA has considerable potential for ecotourism. The small kayak tour operation funded by this project is operating successfully. The construction of a kayak center is progressing and a more comprehensive Ecotourism Development Planning consultancy is in the pipeline. Aside from the kayak tour, there is community interest in the development of an ecotrail tours and lodges.

The diversity of community interest in the CA area including direct opponents of sustainable development and resource conservation activities dictates that awareness raising and garnering community support constitutes a major part of the CASO's activities. At the same time, awareness raising activities has been the avenue wherein specific Project activities such as ecotourism and the resource management plan have been discussed and debated. Awareness raising takes the form of community meetings. More recently, even CACC meetings have been opened to the public.

Awareness raising will remain an important priority for the Project in the immediate future. This is to ensure wide support for the implementation of the resource management plan, the ecotourism development activities and biodiversity monitoring and assessment activities.

### **3. TITLE OF PROJECT: ANONO MARINE RESERVE MANAGEMENT**

1. ORIGINATOR/COUNTRY: BRENDON PASISI. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. Niue
2. Project period: October 2001-July 2002.

#### **3. Objectives and outputs**

- 1) Ecological:
  - To deter fishing in protected areas by defining the MPA with a series of lighted buoys.
  - Undertake monitoring of commercially exploited species and environmental indicators species both within and outside the reserve.
- 2) Educational:
  - To further awareness of the reserve and of the variety and importance of its marine life.
  - production of a Anono Reserve reef ecosystem poster explaining reserve biodiversity and practices of conservation.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- 1) Clearly defined reserve boundaries to increase compliance with reserve regulations.
- 2) Information on the stock level of reef fish that will be compared to the data from the first such assessment and will serve as a precedent for yearly census regime that will play an integral role in the monitoring and management of Niue's reef fisheries.
- 3) Increased awareness and enthusiasm on the part of the local people for the principles of the reserve and the life within it.

#### **Progress:**

Signages were installed at Namoui-Anonō Marine Reserve in late 2001. The underwater visual census surveys transects were established and monitoring commenced. Monitoring continued throughout 2002. 1000 posters about the reserve ecosystem posters have been printed and were be distributed widely. Unfortunately the Peace Corp volunteer overseeing these activities left Niue in June 2002 so activities have lapsed. However, Niue has chosen inshore fisheries and MPA as their focal are for activities under the International Waters Program so the security and ongoing management of the MPA is assured.



#### **4. TITLE OF PROJECT: HIRI EAST COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AREA**

1. ORIGINATOR/COUNTRY: VAGI REI. Office of Environment and Conservation, Conservation Department, PNG.
2. Project period: October. 2001- August 2002

#### **OBJECTIVES AND OUTPUTS**

- 1) Social: To restore relationship between the coastal villages along the Hiri coast through outreach and inter-village workshops.
- 2) Educational: To renew villages attitudes in promoting the conservation of the mangrove forest, sea grass and reefs systems and management of the community based MPA through an outreach campaign including village workshops, school campaign and radio broadcasts.

#### **OUTCOMES**

A united community actively involved to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources through the establishment of a marine and coastal zone management regime involving all villages.

#### **Progress:**

The renewal program was conducted in two parts. This included the following;

1. The two major workshops were conducted in two villages covering the entire district of fourteen villages. These two workshops included participants from as Sunday school teachers to the village councilors.
2. The usage of local language on the local radio station FM 89.9. During this Radio talk back show a selected group of individuals from the workshop were ask to come in and give an account on what they thought about such special support received from SPREP in continuing to promote the subject of Marine conservation within the local area including for the first time involving the inland villages.

The workshops were conducted in two selected villages that were identified central to host the other neighboring villages. The workshops were held separately with over 14 villages divided into two groups. This included Tubuseria, Barakau and Dagoda, Gereka, Sabuia, Seme and Senunu while the second group consists of Gaire, Deu, Tagana. Ginigolo, Manugoro, Gunugau and Gabagaba. The selection of participants ranged from church elders, village councilors, respective clan leaders, retired public and private sector employee and interested parties such as business houses and interested observers.

The two different groups shared very common remarks and highlighted a lot of areas that they could try to improve especially the need to promote conservation of our reefs and its resources. Tubuseria has expressed concern on the use of reefs by dive ventures, whereby the local villages should be benefiting from small fees been paid. This was commonly shared by other villagers as well because the use of this resources was not only in one area but extended through out the Hiri East coastline.

There was major concerns that since the inception of the East Hiri Coast Development program came to a halt there was no support from the government or other local non government organization to provide technical and scientific advise on the status of their reef resources. This concern was shared and therefore requested that something should be done soon to address this problem. There must be consistency of continuing interest in promoting marine conservation along the Hiri coast.

There was a committee setup earlier in the 1990s and some of the members are now deceased and a fresh appointment was made to oversee the whole process of promoting conservation of our marine resources and its habitats. The new appointments included representatives from Gabagaba, Tagana, Manugoro, Gaire, Dagoda, Barakau and Tubuseria. It was agreed by all the participants present that this group will represent the interest of the people in promoting Public awareness campaign as well as other scientific research and survey that may be conducted in the East Hiri Coast area.

For the very first time this workshop has been able to engage six inland villages. One of the elders made this remark: and I quote” *I have lived all my life in the village and did not know very much about how we inland villages were contributing to the degradation of the precious sea life. This knowledge I have learnt is very new and I can assure you that this message will get to my people*” end of quote. It was also highlighted that such marine awareness campaign must always involve the inland villages.

During the workshop it was emphasized that conservation is a voluntary job and there is no organization that will come and pay for all your efforts. Everyone in the village makes the decision that will determine the sustainability of their marine resources.

All the participants that were present applauded the workshop. They have all expressed that this is a timely effort to again remind ourselves of the marine resources, which are rapidly declining because of our carelessness. Elders from respective groups in the village expressed sincere thanks to donor agency especially Dr. Mary Power for recognizing the East Hiri program and further supporting the awareness drive for the future generation.

There was great concern that in future organization of such events must be plan in the early part of the year to allow effective and efficient participation from participants as well as observers. They expressed sincere thanks that the subjects covered during the workshop should be extended to all the primary schools and other institutions, which are located with the East Hiri Boundary. A special thanks was mentioned for Mr. Job Opu’s

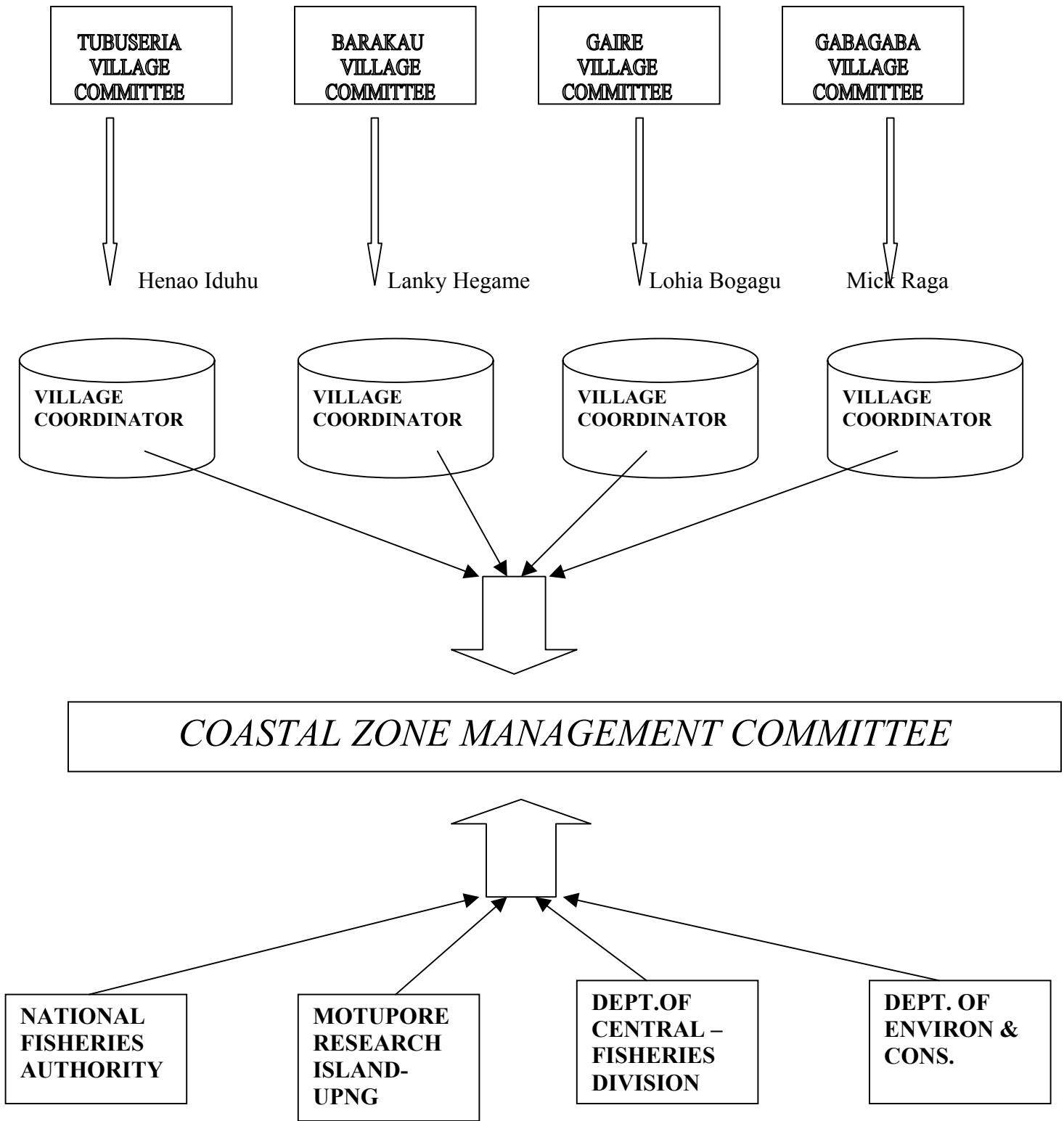
participation even though he had other of his important appointment to attend to, he has given time to come and participate with us in the workshop.

Discussions are now underway to continue the work at East Hiri under the banner of the Pacific ICRAN Action Phase of the UNF-UNEP ICRAN Program.

A framework was proposed to foster coastal management in the East Hiri district. Figure 1.

**FIGURE 1 - MANAGEMENT MODALITY**

**HIRI EAST COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**



## **5. JALUIT ATOLL MARINE CONSERVATION AREA**

1. Originator/Country: EPA, Marshall Islands
2. PROJECT PERIOD: OCT.2001 – AUGUST 2002

### **OBJECTIVES AND OUTPUTS**

1. Ecological:
  - To prevent damages to coral and to mark the boundary of the non-fishing area: setting of buoys.
  - To monitor certain species of fishes and clams in the lagoon: employ monitoring team.
2. Economic:
  - To increase the numbers for certain clam stock population in the lagoon: aquaculturing.
  - To inform visitors (snorkelers) about different sites: setting of interpretive signs.
3. Educational:
  - To educate the community on how is it important to save and conserve the life of birds and turtles.

### **OUTCOMES**

- 1) Prevent illegal fishing and to help prevent damages to the coral caused by the anchors and snorkelers.
- 2) Reduce the risk of over harvesting of fish and clam species.
- 3) Monitor populations of clam species that have been decreasing due to over-harvesting.
- 4) Stop bird and turtle harvesting.

### **Progress:**

#### **Management**

A full time officer had been appointed to manage the area, undertake patrols and public liaison to ensure compliance with closures.

#### **Capacity Building**

Training in the use of GIS for a project staff. He is now in the position to gather GIS/GPS data and use aerial and IKONOS Imagery to establish boundaries of the mangrove conservation area, and the other designated conservation coral reef areas within the atoll.

**Community Consultation Meetings**

Meetings have been held with the national and local political leaders from Jaluit Atoll to brief them on the status of the conservation program and plans for alternative income generation through an eco-tourism project. Further community consultation meetings were held at Jabor and at Jaluit, Jaluit. Such meetings resulted in having the community involve in weekly clean up activities

Information materials are under preparation to provide signage to inform people of regulations regarding fishing and the reserve areas.

The project is now supported by the Pacific ICRAN Action Phase. A resource management plan has been developed and is in the final stage of consultation. ICRAN support for on-ground management will continue for another 2 years.

6.

## **6. Uafato Marine Reserve, Uafato Conservation Area Upolu, Samoa.**

**Project Period:** 12 months, from January 2002 – December 2002. However UCA will be an ongoing work to be carried out by the community in the years to come.

The Uafato Conservation Area, located within the village of Uafato in the district of Fagaloa, was established under the South Pacific Bio-diversity Conservation Program. The village is one of the remotest communities of Samoa in the island of Upolu located about 30 kilometers on the northeastern side of the capital city of Apia. The community since its establishment have always relied on natural resources found in the surrounding environment for survival, income and everyday needs. The end of the SPBCP program in 2001 period marked the beginning of the new era in the life of the Uafato CA. The village was convinced of the usefulness and the importance of the terrestrial conservation. The programme implanted in the community a new mentality towards sustainability of resources and caring for the environment. They have seen a lot of benefits not just communally but also directly to individual families.

Concerns continue to grow however regarding the marine resources. The village fishermen have witnessed the fast rehabilitation of the coral reef and the increase of fish and shellfish population. Some of the seasonal fish have also come back to Uafato shores after so many years. These fish were badly affected as a result of over harvest and use of destructive methods of fishing. For the first time, the village expressed fear of the possibility of losing their fish resources once again. Consequently, the CACC wished to increase the protection of the coral reef and fish resources.

### **Objectives**

1. Formal declaration of the marine component of the UCA by the Uafato CACC (conservation Area Coordinating Committee) and Uafato Fono (village council).
2. Designate a suitable area within the lagoon as a reserve (fish breeding area)
3. Monitor marine indicators and resource use and develop sustainable methods in resource use by the community.
4. Build the awareness levels and capacity of the local community in sustainable marine resource use and management guidelines
  - Promote public awareness in conservation issues.
  - Increase awareness of the need for a marine reserve and management guidelines and the benefits it will bring their villages.
  - Encourage active community participation in the conservation area activities.

### **Progress:**

The Uafato CACC approved a work-plan for the implementation of the Marine Protected Area prepared by CASO. The CASO conducted a Household survey to garner support and inform people about the initiative. All chiefs of the village were asked to sign an agreement document prepared by CASO and CACC.

The CACC and CASO began reinforcing restrictions on marine life use. The CASO has documented village by-laws set for marine protection. At the CACC meeting, April 2002, the Chiefs agreed to set up a special no-take area within their lagoon and reef. The CASO worked together with Dept of Fisheries to undertake a baseline assessment and establish a monitoring program.

After Negotiation, between Fisheries and CASO and CACC chairman, the Giant Clam was re-introduced into the 'no-take' area in August 2002. The village has determined and mark out restricted area or No-take area for Uafato MPA. CASO to put up signs at barriers and work with CACC to appoint organize a local security system. In the remaining months of 2002 the CASO will train local community members in monitoring, scuba diving and snorkeling so they can be involve in the monitoring program.

The CACC has also established a surveillance program to ensure the "no-take" area and other by-laws are complied with and to reinforce rules against destructive fishing and fishing methods. The CASO has documented codes of Conduct for fishermen and women as well as visitors and these have been circulated by hand to all villagers.

7.



## **7. Vathe Marine Reserve, Vathe Conservation Area, Vanuatu**

### **Background**

Vatthe Conservation Area (VCA) originally known as Big Bay Conservation Area is located at southern end of Big Bay on the Island of Santo in Vanuatu. Activities have previously concentrated on the terrestrial component of the CA. The CA is estimated to be about 3700 ha encompassing lowland plain forests extending from the black sand beach of Big Bay, southwards to the top of a limestone escarpment and plateau to reach a height of 402m, about 4km from the sea. The marine component consists of two km. linear length of Fringing Reef fronting 7km of black sand beach.

### **Objectives.**

1. Develop Marine Monitoring System for Vatthe CA
2. Identification of success indicators
3. Put in place a system for community based monitoring for both marine and terrestrial success indicators and train community members to carry out their own monitoring
4. Develop Vatthe CA Marine Resources Management Plan.

Project Period - Jan June 2002

### **Progress:**

Establishment of a Marine Monitoring system for Vatthe Conservation Area is in the early stages of being met. Currently simple monitoring activities are being carried out, such as the villagers are taking note of how much fish are being caught from the Jordan River and the Big Bay. It works such that, after the villager's catches fish, they then go to the Peace Corps Volunteer to record the data. The PCV is going to teach a villager to take over this activity, though for the time being the PCV is keeping the data.

Chief Solomon, who is a villager from Matantas, attend a workshop on Inter-coastal Management. Though this workshop Chief Solomon was able to learn about setting up MPA's, and how to manage one and, to work with villagers to create a resource management plan, amongst other things. These tools are very useful and the Chief is set to start working with the villagers. As a result of this workshop and meeting with the Conservation Area Coordinating Committee, a MPA workshop was undertaken to teach villages about setting up and managing a marine protected area will be taught and implemented. A simple management plan has been developed. It was decided in one of the CACC meeting that there should be a list of what can and can't be done. From this discussion a paper was created and signed by the two chiefs, chairman of the CACC and one villager from Sara and Matantas as well. These taboos (custom laws) include it is prohibited to: killing or shooting seabirds, no hunting or eating coconut crabs, and no killing of turtles. This is the start to the resource management plan, however it needs to go into more detail and make a long-term plan for the project.

A surveyor has been contracted to undertake the survey of the boundary of the Conservation Area. This is the first phase of obtaining a lease for the C.A. Once the two

boundaries are laid then the Conservation Area can be registered with the Land department, which will then make way for a lease to be established. With this lease, the Conservative Area will be legally protected which is one of the major need of the area and with the success of the lease it will ease the minds of the villagers. By becoming a legal protected area, it will be the first to do so in Vanuatu and will help pave the road for other Conservation Areas.

A 3- day Tour Development workshop was run for the villagers of Matantas. Through this workshop, the tour guides looked at ways to improve their skills. The tour guides included 3 women and 5 men who attended the workshop. The tour guides who attended the workshop truly felt that they benefited and have more confidence to give not only the new tour but the other ones as well. Tour guiding is very important in both the Eco-tourism out look and conservation outlook as well. Tour guides provide a link to the visitors by sharing local knowledge and keep the knowledge alive, and retained for future generations.

## **8. REVIEW OF MANGROVE MANAGEMENT IN FIJI**

**Duration of Project :        July 2002 – Nov 2002**

Proponent: Dr Joeli Veitayaki, Senior Lecturer, Marine Studies Programme, University of the South Pacific & Director Internationals Oceans Institute - Pacific

Mangroves and associated inshore habitats are important source of fish and non-fish products harvested for commercial and subsistence purposes. In 1998, 4182 tons of fish and non-fish products was commercially harvested from mangroves and associated coastal inshore waters in Fiji. This is in addition to an estimated 17400 tons for subsistence use. Over 50-80% of the species harvested for commercial and subsistence purposes spend some part of their life cycle in the mangrove habitats; detritus and the ecosystems as whole also contribute towards the overall productivity of the coastal waters. In addition mangroves are harvested for timber and non-timber forest products, including charcoal production. The important tapa cloth industry relies on dyes extracted from one of the mangrove species. Mangrove systems also provide shore stabilization, and protect the rural communities residing in the coastal zone. There is however no effective management of mangroves in Fiji

Rapid economic development has increased the pace of mangrove clearance to allow for other uses such as residential development, tourism, urban and agricultural development, and boat facilities. These ecosystems have also been heavily impacted on by commercial and non-commercial activities associated with fuelwood gathering, building material harvesting and waste disposal (SPREP's 2001 Workshop on Mangrove Wetland Protection and Sustainable Use – Country papers from Tonga, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Palua, FSM, Vanuatu, PNG, American Samoa)

Project objectives:

1. Compile, synthesize and critically review current knowledge base regarding the following:
  - Status of mangrove associated resources in Fiji (fish, forestry, and mangrove ecosystem as a whole)
  - Commercial and subsistence uses, including production of fisheries and forestry products, and in the case of fishes also exported
  - Traditional use and management rights
  - The nature of ownership, use or management rights held by different stakeholders
  - Institutions /government agencies with jurisdictional responsibility over aspects of the mangrove ecosystem; government policies and use and management strategies
  - Past and current community based management of mangroves
  - Past and current mangrove ecosystem related research and development projects (initiated by government, community, regional bodies or external donors)
2. Provide an overview of international conventions, treaties Fiji has signed or ratified which has direct or indirect impact on the use and management of coastal zone/mangrove ecosystems

3. Provide a review of non-government agencies involved with mangrove management and their activities in Fiji.
4. Provide a review of funding agencies and their activities in Fiji currently involved in mangrove management
5. Assess current and potential threats facing the mangroves in Fiji, and identify underlying causes (i.e. undertake 'Root cause analysis').
6. Prepare a photographic library of key mangrove alliances, key uses and key threats.

The key beneficiary of the project will ultimately be the indigenous Fijians who are the custodians of the coastal resources. But in the first instance the results of the project will be of immediate use by the Department of Environment (together with other government agencies including the Departments of Fisheries and Forestry), whose responsibility is to encourage efficient and sustainable use of the mangrove based coastal resources. The project will form the foundation of policy analysis activity that the Department of Environment is committed to undertake under its International Waters Project.

The project will identify a specific case study site, for which detailed management strategies will be developed in a follow-on project.

**Progress:**

The inventory has been completed and all information incorporated into a GIS systems. The information will form the basis for discussions at a National Workshop in late November to develop a National Mangrove Management Plan for Fiji.

## **ANNEX III**

### **Special Activity 4: Capacity Building of Natural Resource Management**

As reported in January 2002, activities in all countries have been slower than anticipated. Project activities did not commence until 2001. It was suggested then that the project would need to extend beyond the initial completion date of September 2002 for all activities to be completed. However, the countries for various reasons have had difficulty continuing the activities as proposed and continuation beyond September 2002 is no longer recommended.

Samoa, Niue and Palau completed many of the planned activities. Continual staff changes in Tonga and a departmental restructuring impacted on the take up of the project and very little activity took place other than the initial workshop.

The drawn of funds for this activity was only in the region of 45% of the amount originally allocated.

#### **1. SAMOA CBEMP Project**

As previously reported a literature review gathered information on traditional use and management of coral reef resources in Samoa and across the Pacific region. The document describes the traditional fishery, the methods and gears used to gather fish and other sea life, and the rules of conduct and ethics that traditional communities relied upon, with or without conservation in mind, to protect their marine resources. Village Surveys were conducted to explore reef resource use patterns in 2 districts in Samoa and a Database developed to store this and other resource use/management information of use to the Conservation Division. Work is continuing on this component of the project.

Education Materials were compiled from throughout the Pacific and an Education kit for teachers prepared using appropriate materials from the collection and additional materials developed locally. The kit also includes lesson plans and programming instructions for teachers with guides for field excursions to specific sites in Samoa. The Education Kit was publicly launched by the Prime Minister of Samoa at the Samoa Environment Day Seminar Series at the National University of Samoa.

Unfortunately, the Peace Corp Volunteer that was the driving force behind this project left Samoa in early 2002 and her counterpart went off island for 6 months to undertake further study. DEC did not assign any to the project. The Educations Kit was distributed to schools but none of the planned follow up of training in the use of the kit and evaluation and review of the kit has taken place.

1. Literature Review: A literature review was gathered information on traditional use and management of coral reef resources in Samoa and across the Pacific region. The document describes the traditional fishery, the methods and gears used to gather fish and other sea life, and the rules of conduct and ethics that traditional communities

relied upon, with or without conservation in mind, to protect their marine resources. Descriptions of traditional fishing methods and gear and a list of fishing terms are included in the Appendices. (Completed May, 2001).

2. Village Surveys were conducted to explore reef resource use patterns in 2 districts in Samoa . (Completed March, 2001).
3. A Database has been developed to store this and other resource use/management information of use to the Conservation Division. Work is continuing on this component of the project.
4. Education Materials have been compiled from throughout the Pacific. An Education kit for teachers has been prepared using appropriate materials from the collection and additional materials developed locally. The kit also includes lesson plans and programming instructions for teachers with guides for field excursions to specific sites in Samoa.
5. Several public awareness raising events have taken place including World Environment Day, Public Release of the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan, Samoa Environment Day, and also school visits and radio talk-back programs. These activities are ongoing.
6. The Education Kit was publicly launched by the Prime Minister of Samoa at the Samoa Environment Day Seminar Series at the National University of Samoa.

## **2. NIUE CBEMP Project Progress Report January 2001 – Dec 2001**

1. Literature Review: Compiled information from existing publication on the trees of Niue and entered this information into a Database. The information will be included in the content of the “Guide to the Trees of Niue Book”. (Carried out and completed from February, 2001 – April, 2001).
2. Conducted a National Village Survey on the General Uses of the Trees of Niue. The information was also stored in the Computer Database and will also be included in the “Guide to the Trees of Niue Book” (Carried out and completed in May, 2001).
3. The layout and first draft of the Book has been completed (completed in June, 2001) The First Draft of the Book has been completed and has been reviewed by the CBEMP Resource Group. (July, 2001). The book is currently in printing process.

Although the of Niue Book was the Major Activity for Niue at the time the Work Plan was developed, many of the activities have been contributed in-kind, including activities 2, 3, 4, & 5 in the workplan and have not utilised project funding. The project was to be extended to include i) development of visual aids for environmental education and awareness activities; and ii) production of a “Guide to the Marine Resources of Niue” following a similar process as above. This did not occur.

### **3. CBEMP Report - Tonga**

Education and awareness raising resource materials have been developed in Tonga and English that promote traditional knowledge related to the utilization of natural resources, both terrestrial and marine. The resources were distributed to (target audience) decision makers, at government and community levels and to the public for educational purposes. Dissemination of this information was seen as one way to inform the target audience of the importance of conserving natural resources and the important role traditional knowledge can play in that, especially when informing contemporary management decisions.

#### **Activity 1: Workshop in development of resources material**

The workshop had two main objectives: training teachers in writing small booklets on the activities of humans and their impact on the environment, incorporating traditional knowledge. Participants at the workshop included teachers from Government Primary Schools, the Teacher Training College, and the Community Development Unit.

#### **Activity 2: Information Sheet Design and Layout**

The Environment Resources Information Centre (ERIC) of the Department of Environment was responsible for the preparation of the environment information sheets and brochures for the school children in Tongan and English. The information in both the sheet and the brochure discuss the human impact on mangrove ecosystems and suggested solutions to the problem.

#### **Activities 3: Printing and Distribution**

The resources materials were distributed by mail and delivered by vehicles and requests from outer islands were handled by sending the resources materials by boat and aeroplane.

#### **Activities 4: Media Launch and Information Kids**

The media launch used radio, television and the local newspaper. The Department of Environment wrote articles in the local newspaper, worked with youth groups performing drama on television and delivered radio programs. All three media campaigns targeted school children and the general public.

This work was predominantly funded under a complimentary grant from UK DFID. The bulk of the USAID funds allocated to Tonga were not utilized.

#### **4. Palau CBEMP**

Negotiation between SPREP and EQPB Palau took place over 2001 regarding the EQPBs proposal for implementing the workplan. The proposal was returned several times by SPREP until it was felt that it addressed the objectives of the CBEMP project and met the EAPEI guidelines. Letter of Agreement regarding funding signed Dec. 01.

##### **Specific Activities**

###### **1. Project development and Planning**

Palau determined its objective to be the establishment of an environmental database system in the thematic area of sustainable tourism. The project focused on the acquisition of the necessary hardware and software and various activities including:

1. Training Workshop for the Collection of information on traditional resource management practices

The existing data in Palau was severely limited, thus a large part of this project entailed collection of data. While many modern facilities have been mapped, it is the more traditional facilities, such as the family owned homes or taro patches, gardens and traditional fishing areas that have not been mapped. Training for this mapping is essential to collect accurate and useful information. Data will be continuously collected by two separate groups: the EQPB permitting agents, as part of their daily tasks; and an environmentally-oriented youth group, which has been established to perform educational and monitoring tasks.

There was two separate training workshops, an EQPB-centered event whereby permitting agents were introduced to the new system and then shown how to interact with this system. Permitting agents examined the existing GIS data and then identified data gaps based on their needs and desires. During the workshop, EQPB agents identified a plan of action to indicate which areas get mapped first and then divided the mapping responsibilities between themselves, also indicating which mapping responsibilities they would like the youth group to perform. The permitting agents were taught how to map data using Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and how to enter data into the GIS system.

The second workshop focused on the youth group. Participants were taught how to use a GPS units and how to use digitization tablets. This workshop was also a good opportunity to stress the needs of monitoring, and was held in conjunction with the Palau Conservation Society.

Training workshop for school and community educators in preparation of education and awareness raising resource materials

The GIS system will be available for public inquiry, however, most schools and public personages do not have the resources to use this. Thus, education in schools was largely



focused on the results of GIS use – where and when it is best to develop, where natural resources are located, etcetera, rather than on the use of the system itself. Thus, education was focused at the school levels and conducted by the youth group, in order to have an innovative youth-teaching-youth approach. Information garnered from these educational sessions will be used to develop further educational materials; both students and teachers will be surveyed on the environmental issues that are most important to them.

Awareness raising seminars for decision makers and the government and community level

There were several “town hall” meetings for government officials, developers, state governors and traditional chiefs to discuss the results of this project. The audience learned about how the new GIS system works and how it affects permitting.